



Sustainable Connecticut Community Certification Report

This is the Sustainable Connecticut Certification Report of Stonington, a Sustainable Connecticut bronze certified applicant.

Danielle is the Town's First Selectman and Susan is a certified professional land use planner with over two decades of experience working on sustainability issues.

Contact Information

The designated Sustainable Connecticut contact for Stonington is:

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Actions Implemented

Each approved action and supporting documentation for which Stonington was approved for in 2020 appears below. Please enjoy this opportunity to view and learn from the information and materials provided.

Notes: Submission content was created by Stonington, and Sustainable CT makes no claims, promises or guarantees about the accuracy, completeness, or adequacy of the submission, beyond that an individual reviewer approved at least some elements of the action for certification. Further, standards for actions below may have changed, and the documentation listed may no longer satisfy requirements for that action. Finally, approved actions here may include some documents and descriptions in support of action elements that were not approved, in addition to elements that were approved. In preparing your own application, please rely only on the action write-ups for the current certification year to guide your submission. Please contact info@sustainablect.org with specific questions.

1. Inclusive and Equitable Community Impacts

1.1 Optimize for Equity – REQUIRED

10 Points

Approved Information: 9.1.1 Equity Toolkit for Town of Stonington Community Garden Expansion (10 pts)

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: [9.1.1 EQUITY TOOLKIT TOWN OF STONINGTON COMMUNITY GARDEN EXPANSION](#)

Documentation Details: 9.1.1 Equity Toolkit (Applied to Sustainable CT Action 4.3.6 Community Garden)

2. Thriving Local Economies

2.1 Support Redevelopment of Brownfield Sites

20 Points

Approved Information: 1.1.4: Support Redevelopment of Brownfield Sites (10 points) 1.1.1: Inventory of Brownfield Sites (5 points) 1.1.6: Slides from Community Conversation on Stillmanville Mill Redevelopment (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

EXCEL: [1.1.1 STONINGTON BROWNFIELD INVENTORY.XLSX](#)

PDF: [1-1-4 BROWNFIELD - BOATHOUSE APPLICATION.PDF](#)

PDF: [1-1-4 STONINGTON BROWNFIELD AWARD LETTER.PDF](#)

PDF: [1-1-6 STILLMANVILLE MILL COMMUNITY CONVERSATION_09052018.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: 1.1.1: Inventory of brownfield sites in Stonington, CT 1.1.4: Town of Stonington's grant application for brownfield redevelopment funding from the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development and the award letter.

2.3 Inventory and Promote Local Retail Options

10 Points

Approved Information: 1.3.1: New website, www.Stonington1649.com, promotes local businesses, in particular the Marinas, Agriculture and Fishing, real estate, manufacturing and eldercare. The site has dedicated segments to each with an inventory of the local options.

Supporting Documentation:

IMAGE: [STONINGTON1649_FARMS.JPG](#)

IMAGE: [1649_MANUFACTURING.JPG](#)

IMAGE: [1649_ELDERCARE.JPG](#)

IMAGE: [1649_MARINAS.JPG](#)

Partners: Stonington Economic Development Commission

Additional Information: See screen shots have been attached, but if possible visit the website for a more full understanding.

2.4 Provide Resources and Supports to Local Businesses

5 Points

Approved Information: 1.4.2 - Borough of Stonington 2019-2020 Budget (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [1.4.4 UPDATED DISASTER PREPAREDNESS REPORT.PDF](#)

PDF: [1.4.4 STONINGTON HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN.PDF](#)

IMAGE: [1-4-4 IMAGE OF STONINGTON'S DISASTER PREPAREDNESS WEBPAGE.PNG](#)

PDF: [1-4-4 STONINGTON 2017 FLOOD NEWSLETTER.PDF](#)

PDF: [1-4-4 STONINGTON COASTAL RESILIENCE PLAN - 05042017.PDF](#)

PDF: [1-4-2 STONINGTON BOROUGH BUDGET FY17-18.PDF](#)

PDF: [1-4-2 STONINGTON BUDGET FOR 19-20 - PAGE 43.PDF](#)

PDF: [1-4 ACTION NARRATIVE.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: 1-4-2 - Attached for submission is the Action Narrative describing Stonington's contributions to the Southeastern Connecticut Enterprise Region (SeCTer) and the Connecticut Tourism Coalition. Details for these contributions can be found in the 2019-2020 Stonington budget and on page two of the 2017-2018 Stonington Borough budget. (5 points) 1-4-4 - Attached for submission are the collected flood mitigation strategies and outreach efforts. 2017 Hazard Mitigation Plan - Annex for Stonington - This document discusses disaster risks to the Town of Stonington including dangers of inland flooding, coastal flooding, hurricanes, and summer storms. This report also includes recommendations on how the town can prevent or reduce these risks. 2018 Update to the Multi-Jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan - This document outlines updates to the 2017 plan distributed by the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Government. Attached is an image of Stonington's Department of Emergency Management with links to resources, hurricane and coastal storm preparedness, and flooding awareness. Attached is a document from the Town of Stonington's Public Works Department and the Board of Selectmen which outlines flooding mitigation strategies for homeowners and businesses. This letter includes details on NFIP Flood Insurance, elevation certificates, flooding warning systems, and safety measures for flooding. Attached are the slides from the May 4th, 2017 presentation of the Stonington Coastal Resilience Plan. This presentation discussed the impact of Superstorm Sandy, 100-year flood zones, and resilience solutions.

2.6 Participate in and Promote the C-PACE Program

10 Points

Approved Information: 1.6.1: Stonington Ordinance Approving C-PACE. (5 points) 1.6.3: Stonington C-PACE Projects approved by Green Bank (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [1.6.1 C-PACE AGREEMENT STONINGTON.PDF](#)

PDF: [C-PACE RESOLUTION FOR 1.6 .PDF](#)

PDF: [10-16-13_SPECIAL_MEETING_MINUTES_FOR_C-PACE 1.6.PDF](#)

PDF: [10-09-13_MINUTES FOR C-PACE 1.6.PDF](#)

PDF: [1-6-3 C-PACE WEBPAGE AND LINK.PDF](#)

PDF: [1-6-3 C-PACE PROJECTS STONINGTON.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: 1.6.1: Stonington ordinance opting into C-PACE C-Pace Resolution for 1.6 - Resolution regarding Stonington opting into C-PACE 1.6.3 C-PACE Webpage and Link: Webpage on Town website where information on C-PACE can be found, as well as the page that opens when that link is "clicked" 1.6.3 C-PACE Projects Stonington: List of buildings partnering with C-PACE (as of May 2019) (ADD JBG Ventures to the listing)

3. Well-Stewarded Land and Natural Resources

3.2 Create a Watershed Management Plan

10 Points

Approved Information: 2..2.1: Create a Watershed Management Plan (10 points). Prepared March 2018.

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [2.2.1 WATERSHED MANAGEMENT MAP - LAND USE AND POLLUTANTS.PDF](#)

PDF: [2.2.1 WATERSHED MANAGEMENT MAP - AQUIFERS AND GROUNDWATER RECHARGE.PDF](#)

PDF: [2.2.1 WATERSHED MANAGEMENT MAP - IMPERVIOUS COVER.PDF](#)

PDF: [2.1.1 WOOD-PAWCATUCK-RECONNAISSANCE-FINAL.PDF](#)

PDF: [2.2.1 WATERSHED MANAGEMENT MAP - BROOK TROUT HABITAT.PDF](#)

PDF: [2.2.1 WOOD-PAWCATUCK - INVENTORY OF STATE ENDANGERED, THREATENED, AND SPECIES OF CONCERN, AND FEDERALLY LISTED SPECIES IN THE WP WATERSHED.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: Document details for studies on the Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed: Land Use and Pollutants - Map depicting the watershed's land uses. Aquifers and Groundwater Recharge - Map depicting the watershed's aquifers with distinctions along the Connecticut and Rhode Island border. Brook Trout - Map depicting patches of wild trout in the Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed. Wetlands - Map showing the wetlands in the Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed. Documents: Inventory of State Endangered, Endangered, Threatened, and Species of Concern, and Federally Listed Species in the Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed - Catalog of endangered or high concern wildlife on the Watershed. Wood-Pawcatuck Reconnaissance Final - Details on Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed and application to recognize the Pawcatuck River as a Wild and Scenic River. See pages 8-11 for natural resources inventory.

Partners: Reports prepared with the National Park Service, United States Department of the Interior.

3.4 Develop an Open Space Plan

10 Points

Approved Information: 2.4.3 Develop an open space plan, (10 points), 2015

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [2.4.3. STONINGTON POCD.PDF](#)

WORD: [2-4-3 STONINGTON OPEN SPACE PLAN ANALYSIS.DOCX](#)

Documentation Details: Stonington POCD - Adopted 4/7/2015 - See section 6, pages 47-54 for town's open space plan. Action Narrative for 2-4-3 with analysis of Stonington's open space commitments.

3.8 Implement Low Impact Development

5 Points

Approved Information: 2.8.2a: Include Low Impact Development and Stormwater Management Solutions in POCD, (5 points) 2015

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [2.8.1 IMPLEMENT LOW IMPACT DEVELOPMENT - POCD.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: See page 26 - 'Guide Development in Coastal Areas' of the Stonington POCD - this section covers investment in coastal infrastructure, preference for vegetative and wetland buffers over "armoring" techniques, and avoidance of development in coastal flood hazard areas (V-Zones) to minimize loss of life and property. This section also stresses the importance of starting dialogue between state and local agencies and commissions to coordinate coastal planning. Also see pages 38, 39 and 43 for additional information regarding low impact development.

4. Vibrant and Creative Cultural Ecosystems

4.1 Map Tourism and Cultural Assets

5 Points

Approved Information: 3.1.2: CTVisit Profile (5 points). created 4/3/19, updated 7/10/2020 following changes made to webpage

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [3.1.2 TOWNOFSTONINGTONCTVISITPROFILE.PDF](#)

Partners: None.

5. Dynamic and Resilient Planning

5.1 Integrate Sustainability into Plan of Conservation and Development

40 Points

Approved Information: 4.1.1b: Sustainability Concepts in POCD (40 points), POCD effective 6/30/2015

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: [4.1.1 - IMPLEMENT SUSTAINABILITY IN POCD.DOCX](#)

PDF: [4.1 STONINGTON 2015 POCD.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: 4.1 - Copy of 2015 POCD 4.1.1 - Description of Sustainable Concepts in Stonington POCD

5.3 Develop Agriculture-Friendly Practices

5 Points

Approved Information: 4.3.1: Town of Stonington Zoning Regulations (5 points), amended 2/1/18

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [4.3.1 TOWN OF STONINGTON ZONING REGULATIONS.PDF](#)

WORD: [4.3.6 DOCUMENT OUTLINING COMMUNITY GARDEN SUSTAINABLE CT ACTION.DOCX](#)

WORD: [4.3.6 STONINGTON COMMUNITY GARDEN EXPANSION](#)

Documentation Details: Stonington's zoning policies that support farming include Permitted and Accessory Uses for Agriculture (p. III-1-III-16). See VII-63 for regulations allowing seasonal agricultural signage and farm signs. See VII-123 to find details on the use of farm markets and roadside stands. In Summer 2020, an expansion of the Stonington Community Garden was begun with a new set of plots next to Town Hall. This was done in cooperation with a local Boy Scout troop.

Partners: Boy Scout Troop 9, Pawcatuck, CT

5.4 Assess Climate Vulnerability

25 Points

Approved Information: 4.4.1 Primary Effects, (10 points) 4.4.2 Secondary Effects, (5 points) 4.4.3 Special Consideration Given to Low- to Moderate-Income Residents, (10 points) 4.4.1: SECCOG 2017 Town of Stonington Hazard Mitigation Plan - Borough of Stonington Hazard Mitigation Plan - Coastal Resilience Plan

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [4.4.1 HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN -BOROUGH OF STONINGTON - SECCOG.PDF](#)

PDF: [4.4.1 HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN - TOWN OF STONINGTON - SECCOG.PDF](#)

PDF: [4.4.1 COASTAL RESILIENCE PLAN.PDF](#)

PDF: [4.4.1 FINAL_COASTAL_RESILIENCE_PLAN 1-50.PDF](#)

PDF: [4.4.1 FINAL_COASTAL_RESILIENCE_PLAN 51-100.PDF](#)

PDF: [4.4.1 FINAL_COASTAL_RESILIENCE_PLAN 101-150.PDF](#)

PDF: [4.4.1 FINAL_COASTAL_RESILIENCE_PLAN 151-200.PDF](#)

PDF: [4.4.1 FINAL_COASTAL_RESILIENCE_PLAN 201-250.PDF](#)

PDF: [4.4.1 FINAL_COASTAL_RESILIENCE_PLAN 251-300.PDF](#)

PDF: [4.4.1 FINAL_COASTAL_RESILIENCE_PLAN 301-354.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: <https://www.stonington-ct.gov/planning-department/pages/stonington-ct-resiliency-plan> This is the link to the Coastal Resiliency Plan which is larger than I can upload through the system. The Coastal Resilience Plan has been uploaded in seven parts spanning 354 pages of content.

Partners: Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (SECCOG) - Reports prepared through SECCOG

6. Clean and Diverse Transportation Systems and Choices

6.5 Promote Public Transit and Other Mobility Strategies

5 Points

Approved Information: 5.5.1: Stonington Description of Outreach (5 points) 5.5.1: Article on Stonington Funding for SEAT, published (11/15/2018) 5.5.1: Excerpt from Stonington Events covering SEAT Access (Fall 2018)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [5.5.1 STONINGTON PUBLIC TRANSIT.PDF](#)

PDF: [5.5.1 STONINGTON PATCH ARTICLE ON SEAT FUNDING.PDF](#)

PDF: [5.5.1 STONINGTON EVENTS - COVER & PG. 19.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: 5.5.1 Stonington Public Transit - Stonington has worked to expand its transportation options beyond automobiles to create reliable public transit alternatives such as trains and regional buses. Stonington invests in the Southeastern Area Transit bus network which connects the Pawcatuck and Mystic neighborhoods on the #10 Route. Additionally, Stonington has promoted the accessibility, comfort, and ease of travel to reach the Mystic and Pawcatuck communities with AMTRAK on its town website. The Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center also offers free Senior Transportation for residents over 60. Participants can schedule a ride to Mystic, Stonington, North Stonington, and Westerly.

Additional Information: Stonington has worked to expand its transportation options beyond automobiles to create reliable public transit alternatives such as trains and regional buses. Stonington invests in the Southeastern Area Transit bus network which connects the Pawcatuck and Mystic neighborhoods on the #10 Route. Additionally, Stonington has promoted the accessibility, comfort, and ease of travel to reach the Mystic and Pawcatuck communities with AMTRAK on its town website. The Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center also offers free Senior Transportation for residents over 60. Participants can schedule a ride to Mystic, Stonington, North Stonington, and Westerly.

6.6 Manage Municipal Fleets

10 Points

Approved Information: 6.6.1 Vehicle Inventory 6.6.2 Town of Stonington Fleet Management and Replacement Program (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [6.6.1 PLAN OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT 126-130.PDF](#)

EXCEL: [6.6.1 TOWN OF STONINGTON VEHICLE INVENTORY.XLSX](#)

WORD: [6.6.2 2020 FLEET MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES--STONINGTON](#)

Documentation Details: 6.6.1 Plan of Conservation and Development 126-130.pdf indicate the section of the Stonington POCD that plans for more energy efficient town vehicles. The section that most explicitly indicates this intent is in the portion 14.1, "Promote Energy Conservation", where one of the goals states, "Initiating transition to renewable energy for town vehicles (natural gas, electric, bio-fuels and hybrids)" 6.6.1 Town of Stonington Vehicle Inventory.xlsx lists town vehicles as well as fuel type, make, model, and license plate information. 6.6.1 Town of Stonington Fleet Management and Replacement Program is the most current available documentation of the Town of Stonington's Fleet Management practices

9. Strategic Materials Management

9.2 Implement Save Money and Reduce Trash (SMART) Program

20 Points

Approved Information: 7.6.4 Stonington 1993 Ordinance approving SMART Pay-by-the-Bag, Meeting Minutes, and 2017-2018 Municipal Recycling Report. (20 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [7.6.4 SMART PROGRAM DESCRIPTION.PDF](#)

PDF: [7.6.4 2017-2018 STONINGTON MUNICIPAL RECYCLING REPORT.PDF](#)

9.3 Recycle Additional Materials and Compost Organics

10 Points

Approved Information: 7.7.1: Textile recycling (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [7.7.1 STONINGTON RESOURCE RECOVERY AUTHORITY MINUTES 10.5.2016.PDF](#)

PDF: [7.7.1 STONINGTON EVENTS 2018 - PG. 16 AD FOR EXPIRED MEDICATION COLLECTION.PDF](#)

IMAGE: [7.7.1 IMAGE OF STONINGTON WEBSITE ADVERTISING FOR SCRRRA EVENTS.PNG](#)

PDF: [7.7.1 FLYER FOR SCRRRA COLLECTION EVENTS.PDF](#)

IMAGE: [7.7.1 PINK BAG PROGRAM MAILER.JPG](#)

Documentation Details: 7.7.1 - Stonington Resource Recovery Authority Meeting Minutes approving a ten year extension of Stonington's agreement with the Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resource Recovery Authority. 7.7.1 - Flyer advertising 2018 SCRRRA events and image of Stonington's website promoting upcoming 2019 actions. 7.7.1- Stonington's Pink Bag Program- this new program aims to reduce textile waste by providing residents with an easy means of disposing of old clothes responsibly.

Partners: Stonington participates in the Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resource Recovery Authority to collect fuels, cleaners, and insecticides and to offer paper shredding services. Stonington works with Simply Recycling to reduce textile waste in the community. Simply recycling supplies residents with "pink bags" which can be used to dispose of clothes, shoes, or accessories. The bags are collected and then the contents recycled.

10. Optimal Health and Wellness Opportunities

10.3 Improve Air Quality in Public Spaces

15 Points

Approved Information: 7.10.3: Stonington Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes (15 points). Adopted 3/31/14 7.10.3: Stonington Town Website on Anti-Smoking Initiatives

Supporting Documentation:

IMAGE: [7.10.3 TOWN OF STONINGTON WEBPAGE ON ANTI-SMOKING INITIATIVES .PNG](#)

PDF: [7.10.3 MEETING MINUTES FOR STONINGTON RECREATION COMMISSION - 3.31.14.PDF](#)

IMAGE: [NO SMOKING PARK SIGNAGE \(SPELLMAN PARK EXAMPLE\)](#)

Documentation Details: 7.10.3: Details on Stonington's Anti-Smoking Campaign and meeting minutes from the Stonington Recreation Commission approving a ban on smoking in town parks (See page 3).

Partners: ACHIEVE New London County Coalition - County anti-smoking advocacy group.

11. Healthy, Efficient and Diverse Housing

11.1 Design and Implement an Affordable Housing Plan

15 Points

Approved Information: 8.1.2: SCCOG Regional Housing Study (15 points). - Updated 3/12/18

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [8.1.1 2018 PARTNERSHIP FOR STRONG COMMUNITIES - STONINGTON REPORT.PDF](#)

PDF: [8.1.1 STONINGTON HOUSING NEEDS ASSESSMENT \(PORTION OF HOUSING INCENTIVE ZONE\).PDF](#)

PDF: [8.1.2 SCCOG REGIONAL HOUSING STUDY.PDF](#)

PDF: [8.1.2 HOUSING NEEDS ASSESSMENT REFERENCE SHEET FINAL.PDF](#)

PDF: [8.1.2 STONINGTON RETROSPECTIVE ANALYSIS.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: 8.1.2 Completed.

Partners: Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments - Authors of 2018 regional housing study including Stonington

13. Innovative Strategies and Practices

13.1 Implement Your Own Sustainability Action

15 Points

Approved Information: 10-1: Pollinator Pathways Project (15 points) 10-1: Article on Pollinator Pathways 10.1 Article on Pollinator Pathways

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: [ACTION NARRATIVE 10-1.DOCX](#)

PDF: [10-1 STONINGTON PLASTIC BAGS AND STRAWS COMM. MINUTES 04302019.PDF](#)

PDF: [10-1 STONINGTON PLASTIC BAGS AND STRAWS ORDINANCE - APRIL 2019.PDF](#)

PDF: [10-1 WESTERLY SUN ARTICLE ON STONINGTON ORDINANCE.PDF](#)

PDF: [POLLINATOR 10.1.PDF](#)

PDF: [ARTICLE ON PP 10-1](#)

PDF: [SECOND ARTICLE ON PP 10-1](#)